(b) The works have been ongoing and there has been no stoppage due to the above process of Expert Determination.

(c) The project is slated to be commissioned by December, 2007.

(d) The reduction in the height of the dam is in the "free-Board" portion at the top of the dam and will not curtail the installed capacity of 450 MW of power generation.

Storage and conservation of rain water

2407. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:
SHRI KAMALAKHTAR:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India does not have adequate infrastructure to capture the rainwater and the country has been sitting over new project for too long-so long that they become unaffordable;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it takes a good monsoon to highlight the need for better storage and conservation of rainwater; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to plan for better storage and conservation of rainwater to pull India out of an alarming water crisis in the years to Come?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) The average annual rainfall of the country is about 1170 mm. However, there is very high temporal and spatial variation in rainfall. With a view to conserve water, several water resources development projects have been taken up in the country. There has been considerable progress in respect of water resources development in India since independence through major, medium and minor irrigation schemes and multipurpose projects. The live storage capacity of the completed dam projects is estimated to be 213 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) which was only about 15.6 BCM at the time of independence. Besides, as per present assessment, the total estimated storage capacity of the various projects under construction is about 76 BCM. Further, the State Governments have identified various other schemes for investigation and planning and the estimated storage for such schemes is about 108 BCM.

Measures for development and management of water resources are undertaken by the respective State Governments which include creation of storage through major, medium and minor irrigation projects, restoration of water bodies, rain water harvesting, artificial recharge to ground water and adoption of better management practices etc. Government of India provides assistance to the State Governments through various schemes/ programmes, such as Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP); Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM) Programme; National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies directly linked to Agriculture etc. The Government of India also encourages rainwater harvesting and recharge to groundwater for conservation of water.

Water pollution by industries

2408. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether, concerned over the growing water pollution by industries and also the scarcity of ground water, he has set up a sub-committee to work on a policy for Water for Industries and the State Governments to submit their views on the matter,

(b) whether the policy has also highlighted the need for increased participation of private sector in planning, development and management of water resources projects for diverse uses; and

(c) to what extent State Governments, industry bodies, have accepted the proposal for preserving the water and helping the water projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The committee has not submitted its report.

(c) Does not arise.

Inter-State water disputes pending before tribunals and courts

2409. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the inter-State river water disputes pending before Tribunals and Courts in the country;